

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01835 141037Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 HA-05 ACDA-12 /091 W
-----099053 141600Z /50

R 141030Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6920
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, GE
SUBJECT: VON BERG APPEARS; DENIES RUMORS

REF: BONN 4356

1. ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AND SOMETIME INNER-GERMAN INTERLOCUTOR VON BERG, REPORTED IN THE WEST PRESS AND REFTEL TO HAVE DISAPPEARED UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, APPEARED ALIVE AND WELL IN AN INTERVIEW AT HIS HOME WITH WEST GERMAN TELEVISION AND NEWSPAPER JOURNALISTS MARCH 10. HE DISMISSED THE REPORTS OF HIS ARREST AS COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED, CLAIMED TO BE NO MORE THAN A PROFESSOR AT HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY AND SPECIFICALLY DENIED BEING A POLITICAL ADVISOR TO WILLI STOPH. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION CONCERNING HIS RECENT ABSENCE FROM BERLIN, VON BERG CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN ON A LONG BUSINESS TRIP "IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES."

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2. THE WEST BERLIN PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES AT THE GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERNING VON BERG'S ALLEDGED ARREST, MFA DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT.

3. COMMENT: THE DENIALS OF THE STORIES CONCERNING

VON BERG'S SUPPOSED ARREST DO NOT, CERTAINLY, MEAN
THAT IT DID NOT HAPPEN. THE VERY RAPID REACTION TO THE
APPEARANCE OF THESE STORIES DOES INDICATE, HOWEVER,
A VERY HIGH LEVEL OF SENSITIVITY ON THIS SUBJECT,
PERHAPS RELATED TO VON BERG'S LINKS WITH STOPH OR HIS
CONNECTIONS AT DER SPIEGEL. END COMMENT. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780373/aaaacjrj.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 08faf5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Subject: VON BERG APPEARS; DENIES RUMORS
TAGS: PGOV, GC, (VON BERG)
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Review Markings:
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